

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church
of Howard County

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion

September 3, 2017

10:00 a.m.



GATHER

Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.

Please remember to turn cell phones and pagers to silent for worship.

Where you see an asterisk () please stand if you are able.*

Words in **bold** are read by the congregation.

Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.

For Personal Meditation before Worship

Just as this broken bread was first scattered upon the hills, then was gathered and became one, so may your church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

The Didache, 2nd century

Gathering Music

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.

Newcomers please leave us your address and contact information!

Then, pass the folder the length of the pew and back.

Lighting the Christ Candle

O give thanks to the Name Unnamed!

Make God's deeds known among the peoples!

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

Christ is the light of the world and the center of our lives.

Prayer for the Morning

May God be with you.

And also with you.

God of Shiphrah and Puah, Miriam and Moses,
you are our help from age to age.

**You set your people free to worship you
and to serve one another in love.**

**Open us to your presence in our lives,
that we may give you all our thanks and praise.**

Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Maker of all:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, servant of the poor:

Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life:

Have mercy on us.

**God of grace, love and communion,
we confess that we have failed to love you
with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.**

**You have always cared for your people
with infinite wisdom, power and love.**

**But we turn from you to seek our own way,
to depend on our own strength,
to live by our own wisdom.**

**Forgive us for forgetting that in your hands,
our lives are safe and secure.**

Release us from our captivity to sin.

Restore us and set us free,

so that we may glorify you and enjoy you forever.

(We take time for quiet, personal prayer...)

Assurance of Grace

* **Response of Praise 613** *(singing together)*

O Lord, Our Lord

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

O Lord, we praise your name.

O Lord, we magnify your name:

Prince of Peace, mighty God;

O Lord God Almighty.

* **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.

*A touch on the shoulder, a nod, a bow – can be a substitute
for handshakes to hinder the spread of the flu.*

* **Song of Thanksgiving 647** (singing together)

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart give thanks to the Holy One, give
5 thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the
10 weak say, I am strong; let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has
15 done for us Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.

Words of Welcome

*Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.
Newcomers please leave us your address and phone number!
Then, pass the folder the length of the pew and back.*

ENCOUNTER

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Matthew 16:21-26

Page 798; pew Bible

The Word of God for the People of God
Thanks be to God!

Children's Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

*Afterwards, children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play.
Parents can pick up their children following worship in Rooms 110 & 113.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory forever. Amen.

Second Lesson: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Page 43; pew Bible

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Morton Harris

Exodus: Birthing Stools and Bulrushes
(after the sermon, we observe a time of silence and prayer)

RESPOND AND SERVE

* **Affirmation of Faith** *(together)*

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Concerns and Remembrances

The Offering

Offertory

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn 533 In the Singing

Bread of Peace

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God is here.

The Spirit is with us.

People of God, open your hearts.

We open them to God and one another.

Let us give thanks to the living God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*[The pastor continues to lead us in prayer. We gather up all our prayers,
spoken and unspoken, as we pray together...]*

God in heaven, your name is to be honored.

**May your new community of hope be realized
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today the essentials of life.

**Release us from wrongdoing
as we also release those who wrong us.**

**Do not test us beyond our enduring;
save us from all that is evil.**

**For you embrace justice, love and peace,
now and to the end of time. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Communion of the People

Music at Communion

Prayer After Communion

SEND AND BLESS

This Week at First Presbyterian Church

* **Hymn 700** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me *I'm Gonna Live*

* **Closing Responses**

In work and in worship:

God is with us.

Gathered and scattered:

God is with us.

Now and always:

God is with us, thanks be to God.

* **Benediction**

* **Response 302, verse 5**

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

Your Spirit gives us differing ways
to serve you well and offer praise.
When all are joined as one, we'll be
your able, strong community.

* **Postlude**



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, education, mission and common life of First Church.

During Today's Worship

Please turn all cell phones to "silent" when in the Sanctuary.

Large print bulletins (including hymns and scripture readings) and individual listening devices are available from the ushers. Photography during worship is discouraged, and flash is not permitted. Please, no food or drink in the Sanctuary.

If your infant or child needs care or becomes too restless during the worship service, you may leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. Child care for infants and children under four years old is available all morning. The nursery is in Room 159. We have a texting system to alert you if you are needed while in the worship service. The ushers will be glad to help you.

Worship programs for children during the summer include: *Godly Play* for younger children (age 4 - grade 1) during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Worship bags for children are at the ushers' table in The Upper Commons. Please return the bags as you leave. *Green bags and bulletins* for children ages three to six (pre-readers); *Purple bags and bulletins* for children ages seven to twelve (readers).

If you are new to First Church

Please sign our Ritual of Friendship, the red pad in the pew.

Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month.

Disabled persons entrance is through the Main Entrance in the rear of the building.

We invite you to attend the Lemonade on the Lawn after the 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship services for conversation and fellowship on the front lawn.

We invite you to become a member of First Church. Please speak with Morton or Sue or call the church office to set a time to meet.

First Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Pastor Morton or Pastor Sue.

The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia, MD 21045
410.730.3545 | www.firstpreshc.org

Ministers: All members of the congregation



Dr. O. Morton Harris, Jr., Co-Pastor
Dr. Sue Lowcock Harris, Co-Pastor
Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education
James Galdieri, Director of Music Ministries
Caroline Smith, Church Administrator
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator
Marla Youkers, Child Care Coordinator
The Rev. Ruth Bell, Parish Visitor
The Rev. T. Webster Brenner, Parish Associate
The Rev. Stephen Mann, Parish Associate

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We are an Earth Care Congregation ♣

Inspirit Counseling Services at First Presbyterian Church

Meredith Barger

410-433-8861 x104 | John Michalczyk
410-433-8861 x115